



Presenting the
Oregon Beaver Collection
Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2
October 16, 2021 – October 30, 2021



Oregon Beaver Collection
"Liberty Seated
Half Dollar Auction
Sale - Part 2"

Starts October 16 - 9:00 PM ET
Closes October 30 - 9:00 PM ET

A special Liberty Seated half dollar offering from a long time GFRC client with unquestionable consistency at the AU and Mint State grade levels. Originality and eye appeal are the rule!

- 54 Offerings across Two Noteworthy Sales
- A Host of CAC Approved Lots!
- Beautiful Natural Toning
- Challenging Dates and Die Varieties

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



Gerry Fortin
Gerry Fortin Rare Coins
GFRC Online Auctions
Tel: 207-329-9957

Website: www.seateddimevarieties.com
Email: gerry@seateddimevarieties.com

GFRC Online Auctions Staff

Gerry Fortin - Operations, Sales, Photography
Diane Fortin - Finance, Shipping
Len Augsburg - Cataloging

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1839 No Drapery WB-2 50C, PCGS EF45 CAC, Choice Original. Crusty, deep gray fields host golden patina in the protected areas, surrounded by ebony shades in the stars and legend. Hairlines are nowhere to be seen and the originality is strong. The No Drapery design features a larger rock, which draws close to star 1, while the date style is somewhat rounded and evocative of the Gobrecht dollar. WB-3, with a clash in lower right reverse shield. The CAC population is 59 pieces in all grades combined, with 25 pieces in AU50 and above. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$2850**



1840-O Very Small O WB-7 50C, PCGS AU53, Choice Original. Frosty silver and gray surfaces reveal remaining luster, which gathers in the recessed areas. Light russet patina is evident among the obverse stars and similarly throughout the lower portions of the reverse. WB-7, from the first year of New Orleans Seated half dollar production, with a small mintmark tilted to the right. The Wiley-Bugert reference notes varying reed counts for this die pair, an observation that betrays the extraordinary amount of study required to create this resource, which is freely available at lscweb.org/Links.shtml. Strike is typical, with characteristic softness around the eagle's left leg. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder. **Reserve: \$600**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1841-O WB-1 50C, PCGS MS63 CAC, Choice Original. Gray and silver surfaces host splashes of copper and charcoal patina, which huddle about the outlines of the central devices. Ample, frosty luster with swirling cartwheels is especially evident in the legend and stars. This example is sharply rendered, with most star points strong and the eagle claws close to completely separate. WB-1, with an obverse rim cud between stars 2 and 3, while a prominent reverse die crack diagonally bisects the eagle's neck. CAC notes four pieces at the MS63 level, with only four coins higher. The appeal of this piece is hard to overstate, with substantial original flash and unquestioned rarity at the assigned grade level. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval. Ex. Gerry Fortin Rare Coins. **Reserve: \$4650**



1842 Small Date WB-5 50C, NGC MS61 CAC, Near-Gem Original. This coin is an "old friend" at GFRC, and it is a pleasure to again present this wildly toned Seated half. The reverse is a holiday headlight, evoking a Christmas pattern of forest green and garnet patina. Luster is semi-prooflike, with vibrant cartwheels. The figure of Liberty is less toned and surrounded by deep tan and ebony shades. Aficionados of original toning will enjoy exhibiting this original, CAC-approved piece wherever a group of "coin people" gather to share their latest purchases. GFRC expects enthusiastic bidding! WB-7, with small date sloping upward and a bold reverse die crack through (A)M(ERICA). Typically struck, with soft stars to the right, while the claw joints are nearly all separated. CAC has certified only this piece at MS61, with seven coins higher. Housed in a new large font NGC holder with CAC approval. Holder label reads "SM DATE LG LETTERS". Ex. Sunset Collection, via GFRC Online Auctions. **Reserve: \$2150**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1842 Medium Date WB-8 50C, PCGS AU58 CAC, Choice Original. A pleasing silver skin blankets both sides of this early date Seated half, a clearly original piece without the washed out look typically seen on lesser examples. Luster is frosty white, with moderate cartwheel effect when rotated. Minimal, light crust is evident in the protected areas, including both shields and the stars. Scattered ticks are consistent with the technical grade. Well-struck, with only a few claw joints blending together. WB-8 with a die line in the obverse shield, while light reverse die cracks in the legend indicate an early die state. The medium date is denoted by the serif in the 4 (this is also true for New Orleans strikes of this year). CAC has certified 61 pieces in all grades, with 18 at the Mint State level. This piece represents a lot of coin for the money, featuring a classic 19th century design and a high degree of originality. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2013-2014) holder with CAC approval. Ex, Cumberland County Collection, via GFRC Online Auctions. **Reserve: \$1150**



1842-O Small Date WB-2 50C, PCGS AU50, Choice Original. The Wiley-Bugert reference identifies two of the thirteen known die marriages of the 1842-O half as the Small Date type. The PCGS population reinforces the scarcity of the Small Date variety, with nearly twice as many Medium Date examples reported. This piece is WB-2, with a reverse die crack running from middle claw to (H)AL(F). Shading is gray and silver throughout, with bits of olive and copper patina clinging to the obverse rim and eagle wings. High point wear hosts steely Mint bloom throughout the stars and legend. Nicely struck, with most claw joints distinct. Technical detail is arguably that of a high-end EF45, and CAC would likely approve at that level. PCGS reports eight pieces in all AU grades combined, with just two at the MS level, both in MS62. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 Dupont hologram holder. **Reserve: \$7000**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1842-O Medium Date WB-3 50C, PCGS EF45 CAC, Choice Original. This toned piece exhibits deep maroon and blue patina in the fields, while design elements are outlined in shades of gold. Fields are steely, underneath the crusty patina, with hints of luster. Dirt is minimal and most concentrated within the reverse shield. High points are lighter, as expected from normal circulation handling. The strike is typical, with soft stars and incomplete detail beneath the reverse shield. WB-3, with a prominent lump in the field below (UNIT)E(D). Medium date, with the 4 exhibiting a crosslet. The CAC census notes 25 pieces in all grades, one of many issues in the Seated half series with a low CAC population. Collectors are paying more attention to CAC populations, and certain issues are surprisingly elusive when originality is taken into consideration. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$550**



1843 Repunched Date WB-18 50C, PCGS MS62 CAC, Choice Original. Silver surfaces admit bluish undertones, while tan patina gathers in protected areas, most notably the reverse shield. Luster is steely and reflective, with active cartwheels. Well-struck, with stars 3-6 a touch soft as are the claw joints to the left. WB-18, with date digits punched obliquely, almost comically so. Early die state, with reverse die cracks not advanced. Despite a mintage of nearly four million pieces, CAC has certified only 54 pieces in all grades, with nine examples higher. This date is one of Bill Bugert's favorite in the Seated half series, as the need for a large mintage, combined with suboptimal die preparation, resulted in 37 die marriages, with more possibly waiting to be discovered. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.4 (2005-2011) holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$1750**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1844 Repunched 884 WB-9 50C, NGC MS62, Choice Original. Russet skin blankets the obverse of this Mint State example, surrounded by electric blue patina at the rim. Splashes of lighter color are seen throughout the obverse, while the reverse exhibits intermingled silver and gold color with deep maroon shading at the rim. Steely luster creates a moderate cartwheel effect. The strike is sharp, with all claw joints delineated. WB-9, with repunched digits and a die line between the third and fourth set of reverse shield verticals. NGC has graded 20 pieces higher, with the highest at MS65. This is a colorful piece that will sell at an accessible price point. Housed in a new large font NGC holder. **Reserve: \$1250**



1844-O WB-12 50C, PCGS MS62 CAC, Gem Original. This GFRC Gem-rated piece is a stunner, as frosty devices exhibit strong contrast with prooflike fields. Mint cartwheel dances as the coin is rotated under a light. Mottled gray and gold patina is evident, more so in the stars and legend, again in contrast with the silver figures of the Liberty and the eagle. The strike is exceptional, with sharp star points and pinpoint feather detail. WB-12, with date placed to the left and parallel die lines through (A)MER(ICA). Some chatter in the right obverse filed holds back the technical grade. CAC has graded two pieces in MS62 and only five higher. This flashy example, with strong eye appeal and a low CAC population, will draw enthusiastic bidder engagement. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder with CAC approval. Moderately PL with reverse more intense. **Reserve: \$3000**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1845-O WB-14 50C, PCGS AU53 CAC, Choice Original. The silver figure of Liberty set against more deeply toned fields imparts a circulated cameo look, a pleasing presentation for a business-strike coin. The reverse reveals russet and gray patina, more intensely beneath the eagle. Remaining luster is evident in the protected areas, as expected on an original coin. The Mint bloom is steely, and more apparent on the reverse. WB-14, with a low date sloping downward and a centered mintmark. The strike is typical with flat feathers to the left of the shield. The CAC population is 29 pieces in all grades combined, with seven coins in the MS band. The figure is 29 pieces is low, especially when considering that CAC has been active since 2007. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$750**



1846 6/Horizontal 6 WB-7 50c, PCGS AU55, Choice Original. The WB-7 is a Guide Book listed variety and one of the keys to the Seated half dollar series. The horizontal 6 in the date is plain, even without a glass, and prominently exhibits the coiner's blunder. The obverse of this AU piece reveals lightly mottled crimson and charcoal toning, especially at the rim, while the reverse is lighter with mixed olive and fire red shades in the legend. Frosted luster covers both sides, and a few lines in the right obverse field are noted. The strike is sharp with clean star points and crisp detail within the eagle. PCGS has graded 91 pieces in all grades, with ten coins in the Mint State band. With valuations rapidly advancing at the upper levels, this near-MS piece, while not inexpensive, represents an ideal collector grade. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.1 (2020-2021) holder. Note, this piece was previously graded AU58 by NGC. **Reserve: \$3750**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1848-O WB-15 50C, PCGS MS64, Gem Original. Silver surfaces host sandy patina in the fields, surrounded by deep aqua shades at the rims, and the eye appeal of this near-condition census example is enticing. Luster lies between frosted and steely and creates a swirling cartwheel effect. Nicely struck, as are most examples of this issue, with distinct star centers and separated claw joints. WB-15, with date slanting down to the right and die lump inside the right wing pit. Half dollars represented the workhorses of 19th century commerce, and the New Orleans Mint struck over three million coins in this year. This GFRC-rated gem example is near the top of all survivors, with five pieces reported by PCGS in MS64 and only six examples higher. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder. **Reserve: \$4500**



1850-O WB-6 50C, NGC MS62, Choice Original. Streaks of tawny color drape the obverse diagonally, while the reverse shading is an even blue-green with bits of russet patina at the rim. Steely luster creates moderate cartwheel as the coin is rotated under a light. The drapery below the elbow is weak, a typical occurrence in the Seated half series as this portion of the die was often polished. Nicely struck with sharp feather detail beneath the reverse shield. WB-6, with a low date and large mintmark. NGC has certified 97 pieces in all grades, with 28 examples at MS63 or higher. Housed in NGC Gen 14 (2003-2004) standard ring insert holder. **Reserve: \$2000**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1851-O WB-4 50C, NGC MS64, Near-Gem Original. Silver and gray surfaces host charcoal splashes throughout the stars and legend, while a few traces of russet color surround the eagle. Luster is steely and reflective. The strike is sharply impressed with strongly delineated detail beneath the reverse shield, the perpetual problem area in the Seated half series. The overall eye appeal is strong, close to GFRC-Gem level. WB-4, with the date punched high and the mintmark placed under the arrow feather. This is a lower mintage issue, with just five known die marriages. The NGC population is five pieces in MS64 with six pieces in all higher grades. Housed in a NGC Gen 9 (2001-2003) standard ring insert holder. **Reserve: \$4400**



1854 With Arrows 50C, PCGS MS63 CAC, Choice Original. Frosty luster with swirling cartwheel highlights the With Arrows design, which was used in 1854 and 1855 to denote the weight reduction mandated by the 1853 Coinage Act. Silver-toned surfaces host dappled sea green patina that is evenly distributed on both sides. Nicely struck with only minor softness around the eagle's left leg. The CAC population is 73 pieces, with 13 pieces noted at higher grades. This is a relatively low number given the mintage, nearly three million pieces. Indeed, this coin is an excellent representative of the type, an eye appealing piece residing fairly high within the CAC census, and scarce as such. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder. **Reserve: \$1500**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1854-O With Arrows WB-2 50C, PCGS MS63, Choice Original. Frosty luster with swirling cartwheel effect reveals wild, intense color on both sides of this With Arrows piece. The obverse exhibits an iridescent crescent to the right, while deeper ebony shades blanket the eagle's left side. The strike is bold and brings up the entire design, including the usual problem area beneath the reverse shield. WB-2, with a prominent die crack to the left of the rock. After the 1875 and 1876 Philadelphia coins, this issue represents the highest mintage in the Seated half series, but few other survivors will present similarly rich color. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder. **Reserve: \$1500**



1855/54 50C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Choice Original. Original silver skin hosts ebony and coffee patina in the protected areas, more heavily on the reverse. Frosty residual luster is evident as the coin is tilted. This is a popular overdate, and one of the few Seated half dollars listed as a distinct variety in the Guide Book. Well-struck, with star points and most claw joints distinct if faintly so. The CAC census notes 12 examples in all grades, with a single coin at the Mint State level. The overdate variety is substantially scarcer than the normal date, with less than half the population, per the PCGS census. Note, there is some haze in the center of the holder. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.6 (2013-2014) holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$2400**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1858-O 50C, PCGS AU55 CAC, Choice Original. This crusty, golden-gray piece exhibits a tawny background with splashes of tan and chestnut patina covering both sides. The rich color inhibits the steely cartwheel somewhat, but the surfaces are clearly original. Well-struck with most star centers evident. This is the final year of the large date style, which in this case covers nearly the entire area between the rock base and the rim. CAC has graded 95 coins in all grades, with 16 pieces in the Mint State band. Despite the large mintage, this piece resides reasonably high in the condition census. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$400**



1859 50C, PCGS AU58, Choice Original. Semi-prooflike, reflective luster in the hallmark of this GFRC-rated choice piece. Moderate cartwheel reveals gold and russet patina atop the surfaces, with the reverse fields retaining original silver toning in places. High point rub imparts lighter color, as expected, contrasting with the medium toned central devices. Well-struck with star points evident, while the eagle claws to the left join as one. This coin is priced similarly to the surrounding 1857 and 1858 issues, even though the mintage is just a fraction of the earlier dates. Such opportunities are frequently encountered in the Liberty Seated series. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder. **Reserve: \$475**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1861-O Speared Olive Bud WB-104 W-15 50C, PCGS AU58, Original. The WB-15 variety, a Confederate States of America issue, is identified by the “speared bud” reverse that exhibits horizontal die lines to either side of the bud adjacent to the eagle’s left leg. The Guide Book does somewhat of a disservice by calling out the “cracked obverse” die crack running from Liberty’s nose – this obverse (WB obverse 5) represents only two the seven die pairs attributed to the Confederacy. As a result, the remaining five die pairs (including this W-15) are sometimes overlooked, even though conveying the same level of historicity. This piece exhibits pleasing maroon patina on both sides, with additional streaks of ebony shading running across the obverse. Bits of powder blue color outline the protected areas of Liberty. Residual Mint frost is somewhat inhibited by the medium to thick toning, while the strike is exceptional, with only a touch of weakness in the eagle feathers. This is a high-grade, well detailed example of a coin that embodies a central aspect of American history. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder. **Reserve: \$1000**



1862-S WB-5 50C, PCGS AU53 CAC, Choice Original. Pleasing, frosty luster is more abundant than the images might suggest. Capturing three-dimensional aspects with a single image is an art, and it is fair to observe that most GFRC clients are pleasantly surprised when comparing the actual coin in hand to the image. Both sides of this San Francisco piece exhibit underlying silver patina with bits of dirt scattered in the recessed areas. The obverse further admits light russet color, particularly toward the rim. The CAC census notes 25 pieces in all grades, with five uncirculated examples. Well-struck, with a few flat stars, while the claw and feather detail is more complete. The low CAC population cannot be emphasized enough – original examples of Liberty Seated coinage can be elusive, and careful examination of the CAC census will reveal numerous opportunities for the astute collector. Ex. Seal Beach Collection. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.0 (1998-2002) holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$700**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1865 50C, PCGS AU50, Near-Choice Original. Coinage production remained low in this final year of the Civil War, with just over half a million half dollars struck in Philadelphia. This About Uncirculated coin is a well-detailed example, well-struck with most feather and claw detail remaining, if faint. Silver surfaces host minimal crust in recessed areas and are surrounded by olive and gray patina at the rims. Muted, steely luster suggests an old cleaning, deemed acceptable by PCGS, which straight-grades the coin. A couple marks south of the eagle's beak are noted. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder. **Reserve: \$900**



1866 With Motto 50C, PCGS MS63, Near-Gem Original. Maroon halos on both sides surround the frosty devices of this pleasing piece, with golden patina additionally evident in the right obverse field. Reverse toning is slightly more intense, with deeper shades at the rim and within the protected areas of the eagle. The luster is brilliant and frosted and imparts dancing cartwheels. Well-struck, as usual for the issue, exhibiting defined star centers. This is a better date in the series, with less than a million pieces struck. Philadelphia mintages in this era remained low until the mid-1870s, when western silver began filling the Mints. WB-101, with the date punched right of center. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder. **Reserve: \$2350**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1870 50C, PCGS AU55, Near-Choice Original. A healthy amount of frosty, original luster pushes this piece to the near-Choice level. Both sides are essentially untoned, with the barest hints of russet patina on the obverse. Reverse fields are somewhat reflective. Tiny bits of crust are evident here and there. Well-struck with sharp hair and stars, while the eagle's left claws join together. A field mark inside of star 11 is noted. Seated half production was lower in the 1860s, prior to the massive silver discoveries the following decade. This is a better date, with a mintage of 633,900 pieces. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder. **Reserve: \$600**



1872 50C, PCGS AU53, Original. Frosty luster radiates from untoned centers, framed on both sides by russet-maroon rings at the rims. Marks are well distributed and there are no major areas of concentration. The strike is well-executed, with only the eagle's left claws a touch soft. WB-101, with date punched to the right. This is the final year of production prior to a substantial ramp in the annual mintage of Seated halves. Less than a million pieces were struck in Philadelphia in this year, and, while not rare, the issue is more desirable than the mid-1870s pieces. Housed in a PCGS Gen 6.0 (2015-2020) holder. **Reserve: \$400**

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Auction Sale - Part 2

www.seateddimevarieties.com/auction



1875 50C, PCGS MS62 CAC, Gem Original. Throw out the price guide on this one. For certain pieces, the traditional process of gathering published pricing data, along with auction prices realized, simply doesn't get the job done. Pricing guide publishers are stymied when it comes to quantifying the superb eye appeal of examples such as this, and a single number simply can't characterize the range of aesthetic appeal that one might find across one numerical grade. Indeed, it would not be hard to find a washed out, white example of this coin in a PCGS or NGC holder on a bourse floor, and yet that piece will sell for a fraction of the price, even if the same technical grade. This piece exhibits frosty centers that contrast strongly with the mirrored fields, all framed by electric blue and russet patina at the rims. Surfaces are semi-prooflike, with intense, reflective luster. Coins with this level of eye appeal are difficult to price, and GFRC will be watching along with everyone else to see where the bidding takes this gem. Housed in a PCGS Gen 5.0 (2015) Dupont hologram holder with CAC approval. **Reserve: \$1000**



1878-CC WB-1 50C, PCGS AU50, Choice Original. Along with the 1870-CC and 1874-CC emissions, the 1878-CC Seated half issue represents of the keys to the Carson City half dollar set. The mintage was a mere 62,000 coins, and survivors of all grades are avidly pursued. The Wiley-Bugert reference estimate 250 coins remain, many of which are low grade or problem coins. This AU example exhibits steely surfaces, silver-toned with hints of rose patina on the obverse. Technical detail is more consistent with a choice EF-45 rating, and this piece would like be CAC-approved at that level. Light dirt resides exactly where it should for a circulated piece, within recessed areas and partially outlining the central devices. WB-1, the only die pair for this issue, with the first C in the mintmark punched higher than the second. While much is made of condition rarity, or quality rarity (with the rising recognition of CAC population data), coins such as this are simply straight-out rare with no qualifiers needed. An old saying holds that rarity never goes out of style. Indeed, yesterday's EF may be today's AU, but there is no arguing with a coin struck in low quantities to begin with and surviving in even smaller numbers. Housed in a PCGS Gen 4.1 (2002-2003) holder. **Reserve: \$6250**